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REVIEWS

M. Tulli Ciceronis, Cato Maior De Senectute. Edited with Introduction and Commentary, by Edwin W. Bowen. Boston: D. C. Heath and Co. (1909). Pp. xlii + 127. \$75.

M. Tulli Ciceronis, Laelius De Amicitia. Edited with Introduction and Commentary, by Edwin W. Bowen. Boston: D. C. Heath & Co. (1909). Pp. xxviii + 125. \$75.

The familiar essays of Cicero are here edited in separate form, and the editor has clearly made an effort, which is attended with marked success, to interpret these works with reference to the needs of young students. As every teacher knows, many school and college editions in this country contain, in addition to the suggestions which the student really needs in order to understand and enjoy what he reads, also an undue amount of erudite matter, cross references, and textual criticisms, which may or may not be of value even to the instructor, who presumably has access himself to the elaborate and annotated editions. Professor Bowen's editions are likely to be little criticised on this score. Each book contains a brief introduction on the date of composition, the identity of the speakers and the literary form of the respective dialogues, Cicero's sources, a brief bibliography on criticism and interpretation, and a list of recent editions. The excellent revised edition of the *De Senectute* by Huxley (Oxford, 1901) is not included. The text is printed in a clear type, the lines being numbered continuously throughout each essay. The long vowels are not marked, a feature that will seem a defect to some teachers who require the reading of Latin in the class-room and who still prefer to place a marked text in the hands of their freshman classes.

The commentary is interesting and helpful and extensive enough for the needs of the average student. The editor has evidently tried to make the commentary one of human interest, for example, in his notes on the augur, the theatre, Epicureanism, the circus, etc. Every teacher will, of course, find unnoticed in the interpretation what he individually has been accustomed to emphasize in his classes; naturally we should not all edit the same work alike. But Professor Bowen seems to the reviewer to have produced a fairly even and uniform commentary. Only occasional references are made to the grammars, and unfortunately at times these references are to the Gildersleeve Grammar alone (for example, in the edition of the *De Senectute*, on p. 37, in the note on *levasso*; on p. 53, in the note on *dubitavit dicere*; on p. 59, in the note on *patribus*). The importance of a uniform grammatical terminology is emphasized anew in such phrases as "subjunctive of partial obliquity", "accusative of the inner object", which are not intelligible to college students who have studied other

grammars than the Gildersleeve. A critical appendix is provided for both editions.

Every critic can point out errors such as the spelling of Anthony (*De Amicitia*, p. ix), G. Gracchus (ib., xvii; the editor, however, makes an express statement about the abbreviation p. 44, l. 22), Mumius (ib., xix), *es* for *est* (*De Senectute*, p. 10, l. 286). The test, however, of a book is in its actual use and the reviewer on the basis of this experience finds these editions good and altogether worthy of approval.

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WALTER DENNISON.

Latin for Beginners. By Benjamin L. D'Ooge. Ginn and Co: Boston and New York (1911). xii + 348 pages.

The aim of the author of this book is set forth in the opening words of the preface: "To make the course preparatory to Caesar at the same time systematic, thorough, clear, and interesting is the purpose of this series of lessons". First are three pages on the Latin language and its educational value, and seven pages on pronunciation, quantity, etc. Then begin the lessons proper. Six are devoted to a discussion of first principles in sentence structure; the Latin cases are dealt with singly. There are reading exercises and bits of conversation involving nouns of the first declension. In the seventh lesson the first declension is presented entire; thence to lesson 60 the usual forms and vocabularies are given for memorizing. The study of the syntax of clauses and of the subjunctive and of most of the irregular verbs is postponed to Part 3, lessons 61-79, where no new vocabularies are introduced. Thus, while the student is learning the more difficult syntax, he is reviewing vocabulary. This consists of about 600 words, nearly all Caesarian, found in the special vocabularies, which are placed not with the lessons but at the end of the book. The syntax is made up of that recently shown to be desirable for first year work. A feature of the book is the third appendix which contains eight detailed Reviews intended to guide study and to serve as written tests. There are numerous illustrations, some of them colored, justifying, I think, the claim of the publishers that "Never before in a Latin text-book have there been such illustrations".

The first thing that strikes the attention of the reader of this book is the immense amount of simple interesting reading it contains. The pupil is not expected to harrow his soul with the gruesome details of wicked boys throwing stones at one another, but he is taught to use the words he has learned, to see and name in Latin the details of illustrations, and to feel an interest in the family life of the Romans, their weapons of war, their mythology, and, finally, in the exploits of their great commander. This material appears in the form of